

**Administrative Procedures for Policy #1945 (Administration) of the Board of Education
Regarding Flags in Schools**

- I. Purpose
 - A. To provide clear, consistent procedures for the display of flags in all Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) facilities, ensuring compliance with Policy 1945 and all relevant local, state, and federal laws.
- II. The American Flag Display Requirements
 - A. The current American flag must be displayed in every school, in every classroom, in all stadiums, and in all auditoriums of all CCPS buildings and grounds.
- III. Other Flag Display Requirements
 - A. Only those flags/banners listed in the policy are permitted to be flown, posted, or affixed to CCPS property.
 - 1. The current Maryland flag
 - 2. The current Calvert County flag
 - 3. Such flags as are used as part of a temporary display within the approved curriculum
 - 4. Flags or banners that denote recognition of achievement and are approved by the Superintendent including but not limited to Blue Ribbon School, Green School, PBIS School, Purple Star School, etc.
 - 5. MPSSAA or other similar sport tournament banners recognizing the participation of a school team
 - 6. Banners from colleges or universities including post-secondary institutions of learning such as trade schools or professional sports teams
 - 7. Flags of countries representing the many nations of the world may be shown in the common areas of a school building as a multi-national display in a manner and for purposes approved by the Superintendent, provided that no flags may be as large or as prominent as the current American flag.
- IV. Temporary Curriculum Displays
 - A. Flags that are not explicitly listed above, but are part of an approved instructional unit, may be displayed for the duration of that unit. These flags must be removed once the instructional unit has concluded.
 - B. Specific flags for countries where the target language is spoken may be displayed in World Language classrooms throughout the year.

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Revised:

Reviewed without any changes

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V. Approval Process

- A. The superintendent grants prior approval for flags or banners that denote a recognition of school achievements as listed below:
 - 1. Blue Ribbon Schools
 - 2. Green Schools
 - 3. PBIS School
 - 4. Purple Star School
 - 5. Conference, Regional and State Titles
 - 6. Best Schools in Maryland/Nation
 - 7. No Place for Hate
 - 8. School PBIS and School Signage
 - 9. Ad Banners (must follow the guidelines in policy/procedure: Distribution of Materials 1047/1047.1)
 - 10. Military Flags (in NJROTC classrooms only)
- B. Any other flags/banners must be submitted to the superintendent via the Executive Secretary for approval by the school principal indicating the flag, purpose, and duration of the display.

VI. Student and Personal Expression

- A. Students retain their rights to free expression, provided it does not disrupt the educational environment or infringe upon the rights of others, in accordance with existing CCPS policies.
- B. Student clubs or organizations that are allowed to meet under the Federal Equal Access Act have the same rights as any other student clubs to display banners and flyers at school. The school cannot favor or restrict a club's message because of its beliefs, opinions, or topic.

VII. Community Groups

- A. While community groups using school facilities at all levels are not restricted, the school system may impose viewpoint neutral time, place, and manner restrictions applicable to all community groups and organizations that use school facilities.

VIII. Enforcement

- A. Building administrators and departmental administrators are responsible for ensuring compliance and removal of non-compliant flags.
- B. Violations may result in disciplinary action consistent with CCPS employee guidelines or, when applicable, the Code of Student Conduct.

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